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E.O. 12065: XDS-4 4-12-09 (CASTRO, RAUL H.) OR-M
TAGS: AR SHUM
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS: AMBASSADOR INTERVIEWS JACOBO TIMERMAN

1. [redacted]- ENTIRE TEXT)

2. THROUGH HIS RABBI, JACOBO TIMERMAN MADE IT KNOWN HE WANTED TO CONFER WITH ME. DURING MY LAST CONTACT WITH GENERAL VIOLA ON MONDAY, APRIL 9, I REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT TO VISIT TIMERMAN. VIOLA MADE NOTE OF IT AND TOLD ME HE WOULD CONTACT GENERAL HARGUINDEGUY, WHO CONTROLS TIMERMAN'S LIFE AT THIS TIME. I EXPLAINED TO VIOLA I WAS BY-PASSING HARGUINDEGUY AS THE MININT IS IN THE HABIT OF NOT RESPONDING TO LETTERS OR PHONE CALLS. VIOLA SMILED AND SAID HARGUINDEGUY IS SOMEWHAT STRANGE. COMMENT: PRUDENCE AND DIPLOMCY SUGGESTED I NOT CONCUR OPENLY WITH VIOLA'S ASSESSMENT OF HARGUINDEGUY, BUT I WAS TEMPTED TO ADD A FEW OF MY MODERATE AND TOLERABLE EXPLETIVIES TO THE PERSONAL DESCRIPTION. END COMMENT

3. I VISITED TIMERMAN TODAY (APRIL 12) AT 1400 HOURS IN HIS ABODE. THERE WERE TWO PATROL CARS PARKED IN FRONT OF THE APARTMENT BUILDING WHERE TIMERMAN RESIDES. THESE CARS WERE MANNED BY SIX OFFICERS. THERE WERE TWO OFFICERS INSIDESTHE BUILDING CONTROLLING THE ELEVATORS. THE OFFICERS WERE COURTEOUS TO ME, SALUTING ME IN A MILITARY

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S20000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(X) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny
Exemption(s): _____
Declassify: ( ) In Part (X) In Full
( ) Classify as __ ( ) Extend as __ ( ) Downgrade to __
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____



FASHION. I TOOK THE ELEVATOR TO THE 15TH FLOOR TO BE MET BY ANOTHER POLICE OFFICER. HE LET ME IN AND THERE FOUR

OTHER POLICE OFFICERS ON GUARD DUTY INSIDE THE BUILDING. ONE OF THE OFFICERS KNOCKED ON THE DOOR SEVERAL TIMES, BUT NO RESPONSE. FINALLY, A FEMALE OFFICER USED HER PASS KEY TO LET ME IN.

4. AS I ENTERED TIMERMAN'S ROOM THERE WAS A COMISARIO (OFFICER IN CHARGE OF PRECINCT) AND TWO UNIFORMED OFFICERS. TIMERMAN AND THE COMISARIO WERE HAVING A LOUD ARGUMENT AND IT WAS AN EMOTIONAL ONE. I HAD HOPED MY PRESENCE WOULD CALM THEM DOWN, BUT THEY WERE IMPERVIOUS TO ME BEING THERE. THE ARGUMENT CENTERED ON A COMPLAINT MADE BY TIMERMAN THAT THE POLICEMEN WERE STEALING HIM BLIND. TIMERMAN ARGUED HE HAD TO BRING IN THE REFRIGERATOR FROM THE KITCHEN TO HIS ROOM, AS HE WAS BEING EATEN OUT OF HOME AND HOUSE-HOLD BY UNDERFED OFFICERS. TIMERMAN ALSO COMPALINED HIS SILVERWARE HAD DISAPPEARED AS HAD SOME OF HIS FINE PAINTINGS. FINALLY THE COMISARIO RECOGNIZED ME, SO HE STARTED BOWING AND SCRAPING THE FLOOR. THE COMISARIO SAID THEY WERE ABOUT TO INAUGURATE THE FEDERAL POLICE OFFICER'S CASINO AND HE WANTED ME TO BE THEIR GUEST OF HONOR. MY FIRST REACTION TO THIS INVITATION WAS "WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE WHO NEEDS ENEMIES." THEY SAID "ADIOS" AND LEFT ME ALONE WITH TIMERMAN.

5. TIMERMAN WAS STILL SIMMERING DUE TO HIS ENCOUNTER WITH THE COMISARIO. HE PROCEEDED TO TELL ME WHAT IDIOTS THE POLICE WERE AND HOW THEIR SUPERVISING OFFICERS WERE NO BETTER. HE TOLD ME HE WANTED TO SEE ME AS HIS RABBI HAD TOLD HIM OF MY PENDING TRIP TO WASHINGTON, DC. HE WANTED ME TO TELL THE STATE DEPARTMENT, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THE WHITE HOUSE THAT HE WAS IN GOOD HEALTH. HE ASKED [redacted]

[redacted]



ME TO CONVEY HIS APPRECIATION TO APPROPRIATE USG OFFICIALS FOR INTEREST SHOWN ON HIS CASE. HE REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT AMERICANS WERE TRULY HIS MAIN SUPPORTERS AND THIS IS WHY HE WAS STILL ALIVE.

6. I ASSURED TIMERMAN I WOULD CONVEY HIS MESSAGE TO AMERICANS IN GENERAL. HE SAID HE WAS SO FED UP BEING CONFINED TO QUARTERS, HE WAS CONTEMPLATING STARTING A HUNGER STRIKE THIS COMING MONDAY. I SUGGESTED TO HIM THIS WOULD NOT BE A POSITIVE ACT. I REMINDED HIM IT WOULD BE TO HIS ADVANTAGE TO HAVE HIM BE A "MODEL PRISONER" RATHER THAN AN OBSTREPEROUS ONE. I ALSO SUGGESTED IT

WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR HIS CAUSE IF THE IAHRC WERE TOLD OF HIS GOOD BEHAVIOR RATHER THAN TOLD OF HIS PUBLICITY-SEEKING ANTICS. HE APPEATED TO REFLECT FOR A MINUTE AND SAID "I ACCEPT YOUR SUGGESTION." HE THEN STATED IF BY MAY 1 HE WASN'T RELEASED, HE WOULD THEN START THE HUNGER STRIKE ROUTINE.

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7. TIMERMAN THEN ASKED ME IF HE WOULD BE RELEASED SOON. I TOLD HIM I DID NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION TO THAT EFFECT. I EXPLAINED TO HIM HIS RELEASE WAS STILL UP IN THE AIR. I TOLD HIM HIS CASE WAS OF HIGH PRIORITY WITH THE USG AND ASSUMED IT WAS ALSO A HIGH PRIORITY CASE WITH THE IAHRC. IN VIEW OF THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF IAHRC, IT WAS HOPED HIS CASE WOULD BE FULLY EXPLORED BY THE COMMISSION. I TOLD HIM THE COMMISSION VISIT RAISED A SIGN OF HOPE, BUT TIME WOULD TELL.

8. AS THE CONVERSATION PROCEEDED, TIMERMAN RECOUPED HIS COMPSOURE AND HIS INTELLECTUAL BACKGROUND BECAME APPARENT. HE WAS NOW RATIONAL AND SPOKE MOST CONVINCINGLY OF HIS NIGHTMARE. HE THEN DESCRIBED INSTANCES OF PERSONAL TORTURE HE HAD UNDERGONE WHEN HE WAS ARRESTED. HE ALSO DESCRIBED OTHER INSTANCES OF TORTURE HE SUPPOSEDLY HAD SEEN COMMITTED ON OTHER PERSONS. HIS NARRATIONS MADE ME FEEL QUITE UNCOMFORTABLE FOR FEAR THE ROOM WAS "BUGGED." IF IT WAS, THEN HE CERTAINLY WAS NOT HELPHING HIS OWN CAUSE BY HIS NARRATIONS. HIS EXPLANATIONS WERE MADE IN ALOW VOICE AND VERY ARTICULATELY DONE. IT SEEMED AS IF THOUGH HE WAS WRITING A STORY OF THE EVENTS.

9. AT ANY RATE BY THE TIME I CONCLUDED MY CONVERSATION

WITH TIMERMAN, HE WAS IN FINE SPIRITS AND WAS JOKING AND LAUGHING. HE EXPRESSED HIS THANKS FOR MY VISITING [redacted]

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HIM. HE STATED HE HOPED I COULD GIVE HIM A RUN-DOWN OF MY VISITS TO US ON MY RETURN.
CASTRO

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